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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,383	08/19/2003	George Eckerdt	23712/111	6216

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EXAMINER
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BATES, KEVIN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2456

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/644,383

Applicant(s)

ECKERDT, GEORGE

Examiner

KEVIN BATES

Art Unit

2456

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period **will** apply and **will** expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply **will**, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14,43,46,49 and 52-68 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14,43,46,49 and 52-68 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Response to Amendment***

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on March 25, 2009.

Claims 1 and 52 are currently amended.

Claims 15-42, 44-45, 47-48 and 50-51 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-14, 43, 46, 49, and 52-68 are pending in this application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1-14, 43, 46, 52-66 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallace (6564121) in view of Examiner's Official Notice.**

**Regarding claims 1 and 52,** Wallace teaches an asset management system for managing a plurality of tangible assets by a remote user using a web browser, comprising:

at least one security asset manager for receiving a tangible asset (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65), comprising

an asset control system including means for receiving and releasing tangible assets (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30),

a web server coupled to the asset control system, and having an I/O unit coupled to the Internet (Col. 8, lines 4 – 8; Col. 9, lines 8 – 17),

wherein the web server stored information regarding tangible asset transactions at the asset control system and the remote user can access and control the asset management system remotely by communication via the Internet between the web browser and the web server (Col. 11, line 46 – Col. 12, line 13).

Wallace does not explicitly indicate an embodiment where the security asset manager, an asset control system, and the web server are co-located together.

The examiner takes “official notice” that network nodes, such as web servers can be hosted in many different locations as long as it has network access. See MPEP §2144.03.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to move the web server to the same location an asset manager to reuse the space for both machines so that other internet connections and space does not have to be leased.

**Regarding claims 2 and 53**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the server system permits the asset management system to be accessed based on one or more criteria (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30).

**Regarding claims 3 and 54**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 2 and 53 wherein the server system permits the tangible assets to be removed from the

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stations or replaced to the stations based on the one or more criteria (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65).

**Regarding claims 4 and 55**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 2 and 53, wherein the one or more criteria are provide to the web server by the remote user via the web browser via the web browser over the Internet (Col. 11, line 46 – Col. 12, line 13).

**Regarding claims 5 and 56**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 2 and 53 wherein the one or more criteria comprises a user ID, a user password, and a user security access level (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65; Col. 11, line 46 – Col. 12, line 13).

**Regarding claims 6 and 57**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the web server provides the web browser at the remote user over the Internet with the stored information regarding the transactions with the security asset manager (Col. 11, line 46 – Col. 12, line 13).

**Regarding claim 7 and 58**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the web server stores information describing the security asset manager, the information comprising at least one of an identity, a location and an installation date of the security asset manager (Col. 9, lines 8 – 16).

**Regarding claims 8 and 59**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the stored transaction information comprises at least one of a location of the security asset manager where one or more of the tangible assets were removed from or replaced to, an identity of the security asset manager where the tangible assets

were removed from or replaced to, a date or time the tangible assets were removed, an identifier for each of the removed the tangible assets, and an identity of one or more users that removed the tangible assets (Col. 11, lines 61 - 62).

**Regarding claims 9 and 60**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the web server stores alarm information describing one or more alarm conditions to be satisfied to trigger an alarm of the asset management system (Col. 10, lines 47 – 50).

**Regarding claims 10 and 61**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 9 and 60 wherein the web server sounds the alarm of at least one of the asset management system and a remote system upon determining that the one or more alarm conditions have been satisfied (Col 10, lines 47 – 50).

**Regarding claims 11 and 62**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 wherein the web server provides the web browser at the remote user with one or more graphical user interfaces for accepting data used by the server system to perform at least one of permitting the asset management system to be accessed, permitting the tangible assets to be removed from the security asset manager, permitting the tangible assets to be replaced to the security asset manager, setting alarm conditions, and storing information that describes the asset management system (Col. 11, line 46 – Col. 12, line 13).

**Regarding claims 12 and 63**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52 further comprising a user input interface that receives user identification

information associated with a request to access the asset management system (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65).

**Regarding claim 13 and 64**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 12 and 63 wherein the user input interface further comprises an access control card reader, the requester identification information being stored on an access card that is coupled to the access control card reader (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65).

**Regarding claim 14 and 65**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 13 and 64 wherein the server system converts the requestor identification information from a first format to a second format (Col. 7, lines 18 – 30; lines 54 – 65).

**Regarding claims 43 and 66**, Wallace teaches the claims 1 and 52, wherein web server monitors one or more environmental conditions acting on the tangible asset and stores information regarding the monitored environmental conditions which can be accessed remotely by the remote user by the web browser over the Internet (Col. 8, lines 14 – 31; Col. 9, line 8 - 16).

**Regarding claims 46 and 68**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claims 1 and 52, wherein security asset manager further comprises a housing for receiving the tangible asset and the web server, wherein access to the housing is controlled or monitored by the web server (Col. 7, lines 1 – 30).

**Claims 49 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallace in view of Blad (6675067).**

**Regarding claims 49 and 67**, Wallace teaches the system as set forth in claim 43 and 66.

Wallace does not explicitly indicate wherein the one or more monitored environmental conditions comprises temperature.

Blad teaches a server system that remotely monitors local computers with tangible assets (Column 5, lines 59 - 67; Column 6, lines 20 - 22, where the tangible assets are the soda and cigarettes in the machine) that monitors environmental conditions of those monitored machines acting on the tangible assets (Column 6, line 65 - Column 7, line 7; where environmental conditions include temperature, product stock, machine faults, etc.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use Blad's teaching in Wallace to include temperature monitoring to ensure that the stored assets are being stored in proper conditions.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN BATES whose telephone number is (571) 272-3980. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 5 pm.



If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kevin Bates/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456